

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEHRAN 12273 121323Z

44

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00
DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 MC-02
ACDA-07 FEA-01 OES-06 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /069 W
----- 103086

R 121243Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 399

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR PINT MASS IR

SUBJ: SHAH'S INTERVIEW WITH AP

1. "PARTIAL TEXT" OF INTERVIEW GRANTED BY SHAH TO AP'S STANLEY M SWINTON DEC 8 WAS PROMINENTLY FEATURED ON IRANIAN RADIO AND IN MORNING PRESS DEC 12. ITS TEXT WAS ESSENTIALLY AS CARRIED BY AP WIRE SERVICE WITH ONLY TWO MINOR DELETIONS, ONE INSIGNIFICANT AND THE OTHER REPORTED ELSEWHERE. MOST PAPERS HEADLINED SHSH'S STATEMENT THAT HE "IS SHOPPING AROUND FOR ARMS," BUT HE PREFERRED TO BUY FROM THE US. ALSO PROMINENTLY NOTED WERE SHAH'S COMMENTS ON ENERGY PRICES AND SECURITY OF THE GULF.

2. COMMENT: INTERVIEW CONTAINS NOTHING NEW TO ANYONE WHO HAS BEEN FOLLOWING IRAN'S POLICY AND SHAH'S STATEMENTS IN RECENT MONTHS. FACT IS PUBLISHED INTERVIEWS WITH SHAH HAVE BEEN OCCURRING AT GREATER FREQUENCY OVER PAST FEW WEEKS THAN HAS BEEN THE CASE IN PAST SEVERAL YEARS. SOME OF THESE INTERVIEWS HAVE CONCENTRATED ON INTERNAL REFORMS AND THE IMPORTANCE OF NEW GOVERNMENT ORGANS SUCH AS THE IMPERIAL COMMISSION TO CUT DOWN WASTE IN THE ECONOMY, AND THE FUNCTIONS OF THE COUNTRY'S SINGLE POLITICAL PARTY, THE RASTAKHIZ PARTY. OTHER INTERVIEWS, PARTICULARLY THOSE GRANTED TO FOREIGN VISITORS, HAVE REITERATED IRANIAN POSITIONS ON ARMS SUPPLIES AND AREA SECURITY WITH A FREQUENCY THAT WOULD SUGGEST SHAH WANTS TO BE SURE IRAN'S POLICY IS WELL UNDERSTOOD ABROAD PARTICULARLY IN THE WEST) AND IS NOT UNDER-

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GOING AND SIGNIFICANT CHANGE EITHER VOLUNTARILY OR UNDER

EXTERNAL PRESSURE.

HELMS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PFOR PINT MASS IR, MILITARY SALES, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: SmithRJ
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976TEHRAN12273
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760458-0647
From: TEHRAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761249/aaaabqno.tel
Line Count: 63
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: SmithRJ
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 JUN 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <22 OCT 2004 by SmithRJ>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SHAH'S INTERVIEW WITH AP
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, MASS, IR, (PAHLAVI, MOHAMMAD REZA), (SWINTON, STANLEY M)
To: SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006